

# WOMEN OF INFLUENCE HEALTH CARE



**I**N 2022, SOLID LEADERSHIP IN THE HEALTHCARE SECTOR REMAINS AS IMPORTANT AS IT HAS EVER BEEN AS WE continue to navigate through new solutions and best practices.

There are some particularly stellar health industry stewards in the LA region who happen to be women and we've alphabetically listed some of the best of them here, along with information about their careers and recent successes and stand-out moments they've achieved.

Congratulations to the extraordinary women leaders who made this year's class of 2022. Thank you for your continued dedication in advancing the profession and working to keep the people and businesses of Los Angeles healthy.

*Methodology: The professionals featured in these pages did not pay to be included. Their profiles were drawn from nomination materials submitted to the Los Angeles Business Journal. Those selected for inclusion were reviewed by the editorial department and chosen based on a demonstration of impact made on the profession and on the Los Angeles community.*





## WOMEN OF INFLUENCE: HEALTH CARE

**ELAINE BATCHLOR, MD, MPH**

Chief Executive Officer  
MLK Community Healthcare

**D**r. Elaine Batchlor is the chief executive officer of Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Hospital, which opened in 2015. Dr. Batchlor was the driving force behind the effort to open the new, state-of-the-art, community-oriented, safety-net hospital providing compassionate, quality care and improving the health of the South Los Angeles community.

Throughout her career, Dr. Batchlor's priority has been to improve access and quality of care for underserved communities utilizing innovative and collaborative approaches. Her work to increase access for underserved populations has been recognized as an example of leading best practices and adopted throughout California. Before assuming the helm of Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Hospital, Dr. Batchlor served on the executive leadership team of L.A. Care Health Plan, the nation's largest public health plan. She was instrumental in developing a care delivery model that expanded access and resources to more than a million individuals throughout the county.

**ANGELA BERNACKI**

Chief Talent Officer  
Emanate Health

**A**ngela Bernacki serves as the chief talent officer for Emanate Health. She is responsible for Human Resources' strategic development and senior management of recruitment and retention, patient experience, patient relations, interpreter services, physician coaching, the Patient and Family Advisory Council and the Cope Health Scholar program. Since joining Emanate Health, Bernacki has taken a leadership role in developing the organization into a recognized employer of choice.

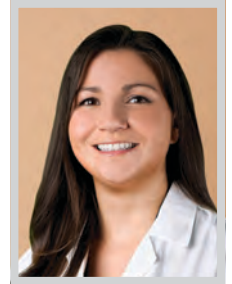
With more than 20 years of experience in the human resources field, Bernacki brings expertise in talent acquisition management, reward and recognition, and organizational and professional development, which has contributed to Emanate Health's growth. She is passionate about patient and family-centered care and employee engagement. She has successfully driven a culture of service excellence and accountability across the system. Emanate Health presented Bernacki with a 'Women of Achievement' award for her exceptional achievements.

**KAVITHA BHATIA, MD, MMM, FAAP, FACHE**

President and Chair Prime Healthcare Foundation  
Chief Medical Officer, Strategy  
Prime Healthcare

**D**r. Kavitha Bhatia serves as the CMO of strategy and is a member of Prime Healthcare's senior executive team. Dr. Bhatia leads the development and implementation of strategic initiatives that advance the mission and long-term success of Prime Healthcare. Dr. Bhatia works with corporate and hospital leaders to align goals, prioritize system-wide value creation and implement strategic initiatives to ensure Prime's continued operational, financial and clinical success.

Dr. Bhatia's leadership has helped Prime build the infrastructure to leverage its unique value and national scale. She facilitates visionary, out-of-the-box thinking and has led teams toward transformative change in nearly every area of the organization. Dr. Bhatia also serves as president and chair of the board of the Prime Healthcare Foundation, a 501(c)3 public charity.

**SHERILL BROWN, MD**

Medical Director, Infection Prevention  
AltaMed Health Services

**D**r. Sherrill Brown, medical director for infection prevention, lead AltaMed's response to the unprecedented COVID-19 public health crisis. When early news of the coronavirus emerged, Dr. Brown formed a task force to train staff, secure additional PPE, and implemented advanced infection prevention protocols in all of AltaMed's 43 health centers across Los Angeles and Orange Counties.

Under her leadership, AltaMed was the first to launch drive-thru COVID-19 testing and outdoor medical evaluation sites in Los Angeles and Orange counties. She coordinated the efforts to make this happen in 10 days. AltaMed provided COVID-19 testing to all, regardless of being insured. These testing sites would serve many of the essential workers who put their lives at risk. Dr. Brown's efforts ensured that the most vulnerable populations had a place to turn for help when little information about the virus and its treatment were available.

# WOMEN

OF

# INFLUENCE:

# HEALTH CARE

Congratulations, Johnese Spisso, MPA — President, UCLA Health; CEO, UCLA Hospital System; Associate Vice Chancellor, UCLA Health Science—for being recognized as one of L.A.'s Women of Influence. Your vision and compassionate leadership inspire the entire UCLA Health family and the communities that it serves throughout Southern California and the world.

**UCLA** Health



Keck Medicine of USC is proud to honor its leaders who have been recognized by the Los Angeles Business Journal's list of Women of Influence: Health Care. These outstanding individuals work together to advance one goal — providing world-class care sparked by our patients' potential.



**Yolee Casagrande, DNP, RN**  
Associate Administrator – Nursing,  
Keck Medical Center of USC



**Smitha Ravipudi**  
CEO, USC Care Medical Group



**Jehni Robinson, MD**  
Chair, Department of Family Medicine and  
Associate Dean for Primary Care  
Keck School of Medicine of USC



**Sara Van Orman, MD**  
Associate Vice Provost for Student Affairs  
and Chief Health Officer, Student Affairs  
Keck School of Medicine of USC



**Joi Torrence-Hill**  
Chief of Operations, USC Norris  
Cancer Hospital



**Michelle Sullivan**  
Associate Administrator, Ancillary  
Services, USC Verdugo Hills Hospital



## TOGETHER WE ARE LIMITLESS



## WOMEN OF INFLUENCE: HEALTH CARE

**YOLEE CASAGRANDE**

Associate Administrator of Nursing,  
Keck Medical Center of USC  
Keck Medicine of USC

**Y**olee Casagrande, DNP, RN, is the associate administrator of nursing at Keck Medical Center of USC, which includes Keck Hospital of USC and USC Norris Cancer Hospital. In this role, she is in charge of the evaluation and treatment clinic, the electroconvulsive therapy unit and dialysis services. She oversees 150 nurses.

Casagrande also serves as the administrative director of employee health services, including COVID-19 testing, exposure/contact tracing, and return-to-work policies. Her testing efforts on behalf of the health system began almost two years ago, when she helped create a testing tent at Keck Medicine within days of the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. This test was one of the first, if not the first, in Southern California. Since then, Casagrande has co-supervised testing efforts as COVID-19 waxed and waned. And then in December of 2021, the omicron surge hit, and all of Casagrande's talents were needed more than ever.

**SUNANDA CHATTERJEE, MD**

Pathologist  
Emanate Health Queen of the Valley Hospital

**D**r. Sunanda Chatterjee had a critical leadership role in the lab during the COVID-19 pandemic working closely with Emanate Health Queen of the Valley Hospital's clinical director. In the early days of the pandemic, hospitals and the healthcare industry faced immense challenges obtaining testing platforms and testing supplies. These items were critical to patients who were coming to the facilities for procedures and to hospital staff who were providing care to patients during the pandemic. Dr. Chatterjee played a critical role to secure these testing platforms and supplies at a time when these materials were difficult to obtain. These supplies have allowed Emanate Health Queen of the Valley Hospital to help communities in need during the pandemic.

Dr. Chatterjee also established protocols to work around deficiencies in the availability of blood products for patients. Her work in this area was truly life saving for patients.

**PEGGY CHULACK**

Chief Administrative Officer  
PIH Health

**P**eggy Chulack is the chief administrative officer of PIH Health's nonprofit, regional healthcare network that serves more than 3.7 million residents in the Los Angeles County, Orange County and Gabriel Valley region. Chulack joined PIH Health in 1981 and has held several positions in the organization including director of administrative services, director of corporate services, vice president of operations of HealthMed Services, Inc., and PIH Health Physicians. She became chief administrative officer in 2003.

In the 1980s, when Chulack started at PIH Health, it was a stand-alone hospital, but there was a need and an opportunity to expand. Chulack supported and served as a valuable contributor to the initial expansion of PIH Health, which 40 years later, is composed of three hospitals, 35 outpatient medical offices, a multi-specialty medical group, home healthcare, hospice care and more. Chulack's impact continues to play an integral role in the organization's growth plans.

**GLADYS D'SOUZA, RN, MSN, MBA**

Chief Nursing Officer  
Barlow Respiratory Hospital

**G**ladys D'Souza is chief nursing officer at Barlow Hospital where she is an important leader with nearly 20 years of professional service. She manages Barlow Respiratory Hospital nursing staff, more than 150 registered nurses in three locations: Los Angeles, Van Nuys and Whittier. She oversees an all-RN team that includes critical care nursing specialists, certified wound care specialists and intensive care nursing staff.

An accessible and visionary leader, D'Souza was instrumental in developing the hospital's Nursing Residency Program to train newly hired registered nurses in the skills needed to serve Barlow Respiratory Hospital high-acuity patients. She is responsible for meeting regulatory requirements, preparing for Joint Commission and California Department of Public Health surveys, developing department policies, and ensuring the hospital complies with standards for safe, quality patient care. A practicing nurse for over 36 years, D'Souza previously served 19 years as clinical manager for Bahrain Defense Force Hospital.



# Take Control Of Your Health

At Pacifica Hospital of the Valley, We are well acquainted with the unprecedented dynamics of change in healthcare. For quality and loving care you can depend on, trust PHV with your medical and or mental health needs.

*Congratulations Precious Mayes President/CEO for being a Woman of Influence in Healthcare.*

[pacificahospital.com](http://pacificahospital.com)



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HOSPITAL  
OF THE VALLEY**

A COMMUNITY HOSPITAL AND MUCH MORE.





# Women of Influence in Health Care



Angela Bernacki



Sunanda Chatterjee, MD



Brenda Hayakawa, MD



Loucine Kasparian



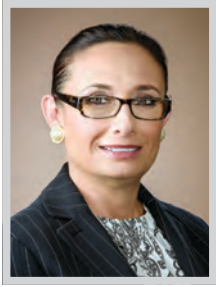
Arifa Majeed

Where **Women of Influence** } come from

Congratulations to these five outstanding women whose talent, perseverance and compassion have helped Emanate Health emerge from the pandemic to continue to provide high-quality health care services in the San Gabriel Valley.



## WOMEN OF INFLUENCE: HEALTH CARE

**ZOILA D. ESCOBAR**

*Executive Vice President & Chief Administrative Officer; President of the AltaMed Foundation  
AltaMed*

**Z**oila Escobar serves as the executive vice president and chief administrative officer of AltaMed Health Services, the nation's largest independent federally qualified health center. Escobar oversees several critical administrative areas shaping nearly every dimension of the AltaMed experience to ensure that everyone AltaMed serves receives patient-centered care.

Dedicated to leveling disparities in health care for underserved Latino communities, Escobar has spent more than three decades in community health leadership, spearheading everything from grassroots initiatives to major policy changes at a national level to improve access to healthcare services. Escobar helps design innovative culturally competent programming to meet the complex health needs of the communities AltaMed serves. Escobar raises \$40-46 million annually for AltaMed to fulfill its mission to provide quality health care, regardless of the ability to pay.

**DEBRA FIELDS**

*Executive Vice President and Chief Transformation Officer  
City of Hope*

**D**ebra Fields is executive vice president and chief transformation officer at City of Hope, a world-renowned biomedical research and treatment center for cancer, diabetes and other life-threatening diseases, with a National Cancer Institute-designated comprehensive cancer center and a large basic biosciences institute at its heart. She has been a leader at City of Hope since 1998, previously serving as chief compliance officer and then chief risk officer and privacy officer.

In her current role, Fields is responsible for an extensive portfolio, with the overall goal of ensuring that City of Hope's growing, increasingly complex enterprise is united in pursuing its mission of transforming the future of health. She oversees the organization's human resources, communications and diversity, equity and inclusion functions, as well as an enterprise transformation team with a prodigious array of initiatives that reach into every major facet of City of Hope's activities.

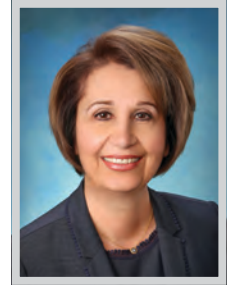
**BRENDA HAYAKAWA, MD**

*Emergency Department Physician,  
Chief-of-Staff (Elect)*

*Emanate Health Foothill Presbyterian Hospital*

**D**r. Brenda Hayakawa has been with Emanate Health for over 25 years. She was one of the first female emergency room physicians at Foothill Presbyterian Hospital. She is known for being a dedicated, thorough, knowledgeable, and focused on her passion for emergency medicine. Working equally well with pediatric patients as well as adults, her priority has always been the patient, and then the smooth running of the Emergency Department.

Dr. Hayakawa has taken the lead in many projects and has served as a member on the Infection Control Committee, the Pharmacy & Therapeutics Committee, the Utilization Review Committee, the Intensive Care Services Committee, the Medical Department, the Credentials Committee, the Peer Review Committee, as well as the Medical Executive Committee. Dr. Hayakawa has served for two years as secretary-treasurer and is currently in line to become chief of staff in 2024 and 2025.

**ALICE ISSAI**

*President  
Adventist Health Glendale*

**A**lice Issai is the first woman and the first Armenian to lead Adventist Health Glendale. She began her professional career at the hospital nearly four decades ago as a financial analyst before moving to progressively responsible leadership roles in a number of Southern California healthcare organizations.

Adventist Health Glendale was among the most-impacted hospitals in Los Angeles during the COVID-19 pandemic. Under Issai's leadership, the hospital was able to nearly triple capacity by expanding COVID units beyond the ICU and establish an advisory team of physician experts in infectious disease, intensive care, pulmonology and pharmacology meeting daily to review and assess treatment for every COVID patient in the hospital. Supply chain was secured early in the pandemic to maintain a consistent flow of protective equipment and other required tools. Regular communication to physicians and associates has kept the staff up to date throughout this dynamic time.

# Huntington: Where health meets heart.

When you need to put your health in good hands, look no further than the community care, expert services, and compassionate clinicians we have at Huntington, now an affiliate of Cedars-Sinai.

Find out why Huntington means a healthier you:  
[HuntingtonHospital.org/Health](https://HuntingtonHospital.org/Health)

 **Huntington**  
Hospital







City of  
Hope®

# We've made Hope a science.

At City of Hope, our breakthrough cancer treatments allow patients to lead longer, fuller lives. Our pioneering research was the catalyst for the development of four of the world's most widely used cancer drugs, and we are working on more than 130 investigational new therapies. Our relentless pursuit of scientific discoveries is driven by our unwavering commitment to bring leading-edge care to patients everywhere. Because we believe you shouldn't have to go far to receive world-class cancer treatment. **Discover more at [CityofHope.org](https://www.cityofhope.org).**

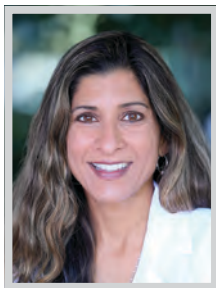
City of Hope physician Fornati Bedell, M.D., M.H.S.



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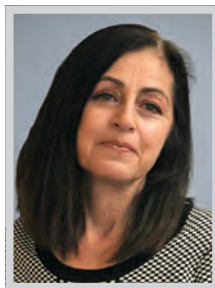
## WOMEN OF INFLUENCE: HEALTH CARE

**SHAFALI JESTE, MD**

Chief, Division of Neurology and Co-Director,  
Neurological Institute  
Children's Hospital Los Angeles

**D**r. Shafali Jeste is a behavioral child neurologist specializing in autism and related neurodevelopmental disorders. She is the chief of the Division of Neurology and co-director of the Neurological Institute at Children's Hospital Los Angeles. After earning a BA in philosophy from Yale University in 1997 and her MD from Harvard Medical School in 2002, Dr. Jeste completed a residency in child neurology and a fellowship in behavioral child neurology at Boston Children's Hospital. She joined UCLA in 2010.

Dr. Jeste's research is focused on developing methods to improve precision in the diagnosis and treatment of neurodevelopmental disorders. Her lab studies neurodevelopmental disorders from early infancy through late childhood. Dr. Jeste has designed innovative studies in early predictors of autism in Tuberous Sclerosis Complex (TSC) that integrate biomarkers with behavior to define atypical development prior to the onset of autism.

**LOUCINE KASPARIAN**

Infection Control Director  
Emanate Health

**L**oucine Kasparian is the director of infection prevention at Emanate Health and has infection control experience in a variety of healthcare settings, including acute care, sub-acute, long-term care and ambulatory care. Prior to her hospital epidemiology and infection prevention career, Kasparian spent over eight years as a microbiology lab tech at Lutheran General Hospital and Evanston North-shore Hospital in Illinois. Her focus areas include patient safety, prevention of healthcare-associated infections, outbreak investigation, emergency preparedness, and antimicrobial resistance.

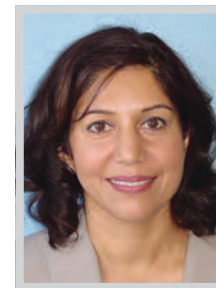
Kasparian developed a COVID-19 Pandemic Plan for the Emanate Health system. She continues to be an active participant in the Emergency Management Command Center as an advisor on the pandemic, providing invaluable epidemiological information. She also partnered with Meditech to develop an electronic data tracking system and contact tracing tool to help control exposures and identify outbreaks.

**CAROL LUCAS**

Shareholder  
Buchalter

**C**arol K. Lucas focuses her practice on healthcare law and general business law. She has extensive experience in mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures, securities, private placements, state and federal regulations, entity formation and corporate representation of both public and private companies in the healthcare industry. Over the last several years, Lucas has represented numerous clients in connection with issues and disputes related to payment for healthcare services. She is also an expert on the establishment and representation of Federally Qualified Health Centers and related issues such as governance requirements, issues raised by hospital sponsorship of FQHCs, application issues, and the impact of health care reform on these entities.

Lucas also specializes in the representation of ambulatory surgery centers, med spas, imaging centers, and other ancillary providers in a variety of medical specialties, and in the legal and business issues that confront independent practice associations and other physician organizations.

**ARIFA MAJEED**

In-House Counsel  
Emanate Health

**A**rifa Majeed has been in-house counsel for Emanate Health since May 2021. She previously served as associate in-house counsel for three years, director of contracts and privacy for two years and privacy specialist for more than one year. During her time at Emanate Health, Majeed has been instrumental in supporting the organization with her vast breadth of knowledge in healthcare law. She has held key roles in propelling many innovative clinical programs forward at Emanate Health. Currently, she is working towards establishing Emanate Health's medical foundation.

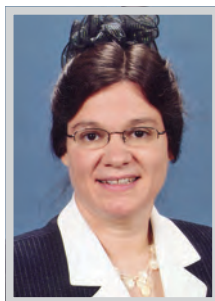
Majeed has more than 20 years of experience as a lawyer. She has spent a significant portion of her career consulting with physicians and small business owners. She is a certified Lean Six Sigma Green Belt, and also holds a Certificate in Health Care Corporate Compliance from George Washington University. She is a Certified Information Privacy Professional.

**PRECIOUS MAYES**

President/CEO  
Pacifica Hospital of the Valley

**A**s a healthcare leader and entrepreneur, Precious Mayes' journey has been filled with opportunities and experiences in a variety of industries. She has always explored the impossible with the philosophy that "anything is possible."

Pacifica Hospital of the Valley is a safety net hospital. It faces challenges with timely funding by the state. The hospital is in north San Fernando Valley and provides service to patients as far as 400+ miles away. The need in the immediate and distant communities are high, so Mayes has been able to work through financial limitations by adding new service lines and diversifying its portfolio with the various managed care organizations and IPA groups. With the pandemic experience since February 2020, in response to the Governor's call to action during the first COVID-19 surge, Mayes decided to pivot available beds and transitioned beds/units for intensive care, acute and subacute level COVID-19 patients.

**EVA MEYERS, PHD., FNP-C**

Cancer Detection Program: Cecilia Gonzalez  
De La Hoya Cancer Center  
Adventist Health White Memorial Medical Center

**E**va Meyers has been a champion for delivery of quality cancer care for underserved populations here in greater Los Angeles for the past 25 years. She is an expert in the California Public Health Program: Every Woman Counts since its inception and which provides free breast and cervical cancer screenings, diagnostic tests, and treatment for eligible Los Angeles County un/under-insured women of all ethnicities and languages.

Meyers is passionate about the importance of early detection of cancer and empowering women to become knowledgeable and connected to their own bodies and to the greater healthcare delivery system in order to live healthy lives. She is a clinician, preceptor, grant-writer, advocate, researcher, educator, scientific author, and leader in the field of cancer detection. Involved in many benevolent organizations, Meyers has, for example, played numerous roles for the past 20 years (volunteer, grantee, speaker, etc.) for the Komen Breast Cancer Foundation.

**ALINA MORAN**

President  
Dignity Health - California Hospital Medical Center (CHMC)

**A**lina Moran, MPA, FACHE, FAB is the president at Dignity Health - California Hospital. Since joining California Hospital, Moran has spearheaded numerous hospital-wide initiatives focusing on patient safety, health equity, and employee engagement, while being an active voice and advocate for members of the local communities. Additionally, she oversees the large-scale construction of a new four-story patient tower which will house new Emergency and Trauma departments, new NICU and maternal health departments and much more.

Moran has also played a pivotal role in integrating the Hope Street Margolis Family Center with the hospital which continues to impact the thousands of children and families that utilize its community health and educational services. Moran sits on the Board of the Hospital Association of Southern California (HASC).

**LORI J. MORGAN, MD, MBA**

President & CEO  
Huntington Hospital

**D**r. Lori J. Morgan is the president and CEO of Huntington Hospital, a 619-bed, non-profit hospital in Pasadena. In her four years at Huntington Hospital, Dr. Morgan has brought her best-practice lens as both a physician and administrator to elevate how care is delivered. She has fortified resources that support the patient experience and invested in programs that ensure quality outcomes. She is also leading the organization's vision in ensuring access to care across the continuum – particularly throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

Dr. Morgan holds a deep concern for all patients, especially those who are most vulnerable to a traumatic life situation or past experience. She has implemented a trauma-informed care training for every employee in the hospital that recognizes and appropriately responds to patients who've experienced trauma to ensure the hospital is honoring the humanity in each person who seeks care.

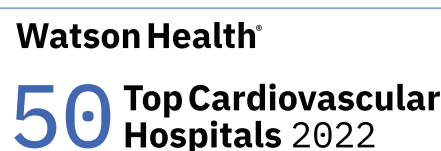




Caring for the smallest of patients.  
 Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) at St. Francis Medical Center, Lynwood, CA

# Every award tells a story of a life touched by Prime Healthcare

Our 45 hospitals across the nation earn national excellence recognitions each year. While we appreciate the recognition, what we are most proud of is what these awards mean to our neighbors, friends and families — **quality care to get better, feel stronger and live their best lives.**



For the 2021-2022 award season, Healthgrades recognized Prime Healthcare hospitals with 347 achievements for clinical excellence, including 2 “America’s 250 Best Hospitals”, 23 “America’s 100 Best by Specialty”, 73 “Specialty Excellence”, 218 “Five-Star”, and 31 “Patient Safety” awards.

## Women of Influence: Healthcare



Congratulations **DR. KAVITHA BHATIA** for being recognized as one of **L.A.’s Women of Influence** by the Los Angeles Business Journal for three consecutive years.

**Kavitha Bhatia, MD, MMM, FAAP, FACHE**  
 President and Chair,  
 Prime Healthcare Foundation &  
 Chief Medical Officer of Strategy,  
 Prime Healthcare

## Prime Healthcare by the Numbers

- 45** Hospitals in 14 states
- 14** Not-for-profit hospitals
- 600** Communities served
- 2.6M** Patients served annually
- 50,000** Staff and physicians
- \$1.7B** Capital improvements since 2005
- \$9B** Charitable contributions since 2010
- 300+** Quality awards in 2021 for patient safety and excellence
- 600,000+** COVID-19 patients tested and cared for
- 200,000+** COVID-19 vaccinations



Get to know [primehealthcare.com](https://www.primehealthcare.com)



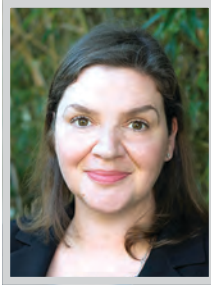
## WOMEN OF INFLUENCE: HEALTH CARE

**SHELLY NECKE, MSN MSHCA RN**

*Vice President, Post-Acute Care Services  
PIH Health*

Shelly Necke, MSN MSHCA RN, is a healthcare executive with 25 years of experience in nursing and healthcare administration. She began her career at PIH Health and currently serves as the vice president of post-acute care services which provides in home and post-acute inpatient care for over 1,200 patients across Los Angeles, Orange and San Bernardino counties daily. In her 25 years at PIH Health, Necke has held various leadership roles, including critical care educator, cardiac telemetry clinical director, and administrative director of post-acute care.

Necke leads PIH Health's skilled Post-Acute Care team that offers continued medical treatment following hospitalization for an injury or illness. Their work supports patients' recovery, either at-home or in a specialized facility, depending on the level of care needed. Her team's services provide our patients with an entire post-acute continuum of care, which eases their transition out of the hospital and onto recovery.

**JENNIFER PARKHURST**

*Chief Financial Officer  
City of Hope*

Jennifer Parkhurst is the chief financial officer at City of Hope, one of the world's foremost cancer treatment hospitals and academic research institutions, where she is responsible for the financial strategy, long-term investment portfolio, treasury, debt portfolio, capital planning, financial planning and analysis, accounting and financial operations, and revenue cycle operations for the enterprise.

An accomplished, mission-driven and strategic health care executive, Parkhurst has over 30 years of experience across the health care ecosystem. Her sound financial stewardship has helped the organization not only weather the COVID-19 crisis, but thrive in order to benefit patients. While other health care organizations saw an (expected) dip in revenue during the coronavirus pandemic, City of Hope remained on track. During her time as CFO, City of Hope grew total clinical, research and contribution revenues by 25%, and increased total cash and assets by over 30%.

**LUCINDA PLACE RN MSN**

*Vice President Quality Management and Performance  
Excellence  
PIH Health*

Lucinda Place is instrumental in the development and implementation of strategies to improve the quality of the care provided at PIH Health and to achieve patient safety throughout PIH Health, which is composed of hospitals in downtown Los Angeles, Whittier and Downey and 35 medical office buildings located throughout Los Angeles County and beyond. In her current role, she has oversight of Quality Management, Performance Excellence, Patient Safety, Medical Staff Services, and Infection Prevention, and joint, bariatric and stroke programs. The importance of her roles has been magnified throughout the COVID-19 pandemic as initiatives launched by her team positively impacted the health of patients, physicians and staff.

Place began her career at PIH Health in 1988, as a critical care nurse. In her more than three decades with the organization, she has demonstrated her tenacity, innovation, commitment to patient care and exemplary leadership skills.

**JUDY PUGACH, MPH RN  
CPHQ CPHRM HACF**

*Vice President Regulatory Affairs  
PIH Health*

In her current role, Judy Pugach has oversight of the Emergency Preparedness program and all licensing and regulatory responsibilities of the enterprise. She is dedicated to addressing the evolution in regulations and PIH Health's compliance with standards of the numerous governing bodies that oversee healthcare.

In the last two years, as our nation dealt with the COVID-19 pandemic, Pugach's leadership has been vital to PIH Health, as she led efforts to quickly and efficiently adapt to rapidly changing local, statewide and national mandates and recommendations that protected the health of our patients, physicians and staff. Her commitment to community is evident through her countless contributions to patient safety, her unfailing guidance and expertise have been essential in the organization's continued delivery of quality healthcare. In the more than 25 years with the organization, Pugach has demonstrated outstanding leadership and management skills.

**VICKI PALANA ROLLINS****PRESIDENT****&****CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER**

**Congratulations  
on the distinction of  
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Women of Influence in  
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**LADMC**  
LA DOWNTOWN  
MEDICAL CENTER





**Peggy Chulack**  
Chief Administrative  
Officer



**Shelly Necke MSN RN**  
Vice President,  
Post-Acute Care Services



**Lucinda Place MSN RN**  
Vice President, Quality Management  
and Performance Excellence



**Judy Pugach MPH RN**  
Vice President,  
Regulatory Affairs

# PIH Health Congratulates

OUR WOMEN OF INFLUENCE: HEALTHCARE

PIH Health honors women in healthcare leadership and appreciates their exceptional contributions. As a nonprofit, regional healthcare network with hospitals in Downtown Los Angeles, Whittier and Downey, 6 Urgent Care Centers, and a multi-specialty medical group at more than 90 clinics throughout Los Angeles County, Orange County and the San Gabriel Valley, PIH Health is your health and wellness partner. To learn more, visit [PIHHealth.org](http://PIHHealth.org).





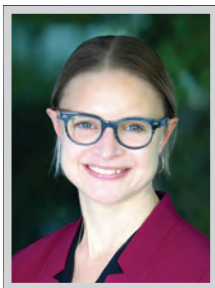
## WOMEN OF INFLUENCE: HEALTH CARE

**SMITHA RAVIPUDI**

Chief Executive Officer of USC Care Medical Group  
Keck Medicine of USC

Smitha Ravipudi, MPH, serves as chief executive officer of USC Care Medical Group, a 1,200-provider organization with nearly \$300 million in annual revenue. In this role, she is responsible for the faculty practice plan of the Keck School of Medicine and the Keck Medicine of USC ambulatory operations, including hospital-based clinics, outpatient joint venture partnerships and community practices.

The last two years have been busy ones for Ravipudi. For example, she oversaw the huge growth in telemedicine to ensure patients greater flexibility in getting care during the pandemic. At the height of the pandemic, the health system provided 1,000 telehealth visits a day. Since the pandemic, the health system has seen well over 200,000 visits remotely. She also helped lead vaccination efforts at the health system, which has successfully administered more than 100,000 vaccine doses to staff, patients and its community.

**JENNIFER RAYMOND, MD, MCR**

Chief, Division of Endocrinology, Diabetes, and Metabolism & Chair of the Virtual Care Committee of Children's Hospital Los Angeles; Associate Professor of Clinical Pediatrics, Keck School of Medicine, University of Southern California  
Children's Hospital Los Angeles

Dr. Jennifer Raymond is an associate professor at the University of Southern California. She is the division chief for the Center for Endocrinology, Diabetes, and Metabolism and chair of the Virtual Care Committee at Children's Hospital Los Angeles (CHLA). She also leads the Endocrine Technical Advisory Committee in partnership with state leaders of California's Children's Services. Dr. Raymond's main clinical and research interest is improving patient outcomes through novel clinical approaches and behavioral interventions, including provider-focused interventions. Her work focuses on patient-centered design and stakeholder engagement.

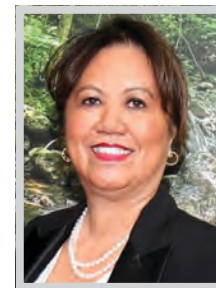
Dr. Raymond has interest and expertise in utilizing shared medical appointments (virtual and in-person), telehealth, and patient-centered care models. As the world transitioned to telehealth in March 2020,

**JEHNI ROBINSON**

Professor and Chair, Department of Family Medicine  
Associate Dean for Primary Care, Keck School of Medicine  
President, USC Care Medical Group,  
University of Southern California  
Keck School of Medicine of USC

The core of Dr. Jehni Robinson's career has been her commitment to improving access to quality health care to all people, particularly to those most in need. She spent 11 years at the Los Angeles Free Clinic, now known as the Saban Community Clinic, where she rose to chief medical officer. Dr. Robinson developed new systems at the clinic to improve the quality of care for the clinic's low-income adults and children. For example, she created a new system to ensure female patients received regular breast cancer screenings and follow-ups. She also developed a system that improved the childhood immunization rates among the clinic's patients.

Dr. Robinson has also been a leader at USC in terms of helping the institution adjust to new protocols and practices during the COVID-19 crisis and has since established a dedicated clinic for people who suffer from persistent COVID symptoms.

**VICKI ROLLINS**

President/Chief Operating Officer  
L.A. Downtown Medical Center

Vicki Palana Rollins has over 32 years of experience in healthcare operations, from skilled nursing facilities to assisted living facilities, ambulatory clinics, and acute care hospitals. She currently co-owns and operates 10 long-term facilities and two acute care medical centers in southern California.

In 2019, Rollins and her business partner purchased LA Downtown Medical Center. Under her leadership as the first female Filipino American to own a hospital in the United States, the facility has undergone a complete transformation. Rollins led the Center to earn a CMS 5-Star rating two years in a row, just after taking over the hospital from bankruptcy from its prior ownership group. Rollins is a lifetime credentialed psychiatric nurse, clinical instructor, a licensed RCFE and ARF administrator, SNF licensed administrator and an acute care hospital operator. She has spent most of her career overseeing the total operations, focusing on the delivery of quality patient care.

**JOHNESE SPISSO**

President, UCLA Health,  
CEO, UCLA Hospital System,  
Associate Vice Chancellor of UCLA Health Sciences  
UCLA Health

Johnese Spisso, president of UCLA Health, CEO of UCLA Hospital System and associate vice chancellor of UCLA Health Sciences, is a nationally recognized academic health care leader. With more than 30 years of experience, she oversees all operations of UCLA's hospitals and clinics and the health system's regional outreach strategy. Spisso is the top executive leader of the UCLA Health hospital system which is ranked #1 in both Los Angeles and California and #3 nationally in an annual evaluation published in 2021 by U.S. News & World Report. It's the highest set of rankings UCLA has received in its history.

Spisso continues to lead the UCLA Hospital System and more than 250 clinics in Southern California through a third year of the global pandemic, overseeing COVID-19 testing, vaccination and innovative treatment protocols. Her highest priorities are the safety and wellbeing of patients and nearly 35,000 workforce members.

**JULIE J. SPRENGEL**

President & Chief Executive Officer  
Dignity Health, Southern California Division

Julie Sprengel currently serves as the president and CEO for Dignity Health's Southern California Division spanning across nine counties. With 20 years of progressive health care leadership experience, Sprengel leads a fully integrated health care delivery network generating nearly \$6.4 billion in annual revenues, encompassing 17 acute care hospitals, one behavioral health facility, and more than 100 ambulatory care sites, including physician clinics, urgent care centers, surgery centers, imaging centers, post-acute and home health agencies.

A top priority for Sprengel is to ensure the well-being of 25,000 dedicated employees and 6,500 physicians who provide high-quality, compassionate care to more than one million patients annually. As a former ER nurse, Sprengel is acutely aware of the stress health care workers face and has worked with human resources and spiritual care leaders to invest more than three million dollars into wellness initiatives and employee assistance programs.

**MICHELLE SULLIVAN**

Associate Administrator of Ancillary Services  
USC Verdugo Hills Hospital

Michelle Sullivan is the associate administrator of ancillary services at USC Verdugo Hills Hospital (USC-VHH), part of Keck Medicine of USC. In her multi-faceted job, she serves as the acting director of rehabilitation services, overseeing the operations and management of the physical medicine & rehabilitation. In this role, she oversees the cardiac rehabilitation and fitness center, physical therapy, occupational therapy and speech/language pathology services in both the inpatient units and outpatient department. The inpatient units include the medical/surgical unit, intensive care unit, critical care unit, neonatal intensive care unit, geropsychiatric unit, transitional care unit, same day surgery and the emergency department. Additionally, she is responsible for the new pulmonary rehabilitation program and outpatient respiratory care services.

Sullivan also oversees medical imaging and diagnostic services at the hospital, providing up to 250 diagnostic studies daily. Additionally, Sullivan oversees clinical laboratory and pathology services.

**JOI TORRENCE-HILL**

Chief of Operations  
USC Norris Cancer Hospital

Joi Torrence-Hill serves as chief of operations at USC Norris Cancer Hospital, part of Keck Medicine of USC. In this role, she is responsible for managing the coordination of a wide variety of administrative, fiscal, operational, and technical initiatives to ensure the delivery of high-value, high-quality cancer-related services within the hospital to achieve strategic and operational goals.

Additionally, Torrence-Hill is a partner with administrative and clinical leaders to foster and grow USC Norris service excellence, develop tumor-based clinical programs, support integration of clinical trials and cell therapy into the clinical service environments, and establish the business, planning and delivery of existing and new precision therapies for patients. Torrence-Hill just celebrated her one-year anniversary at USC Norris Cancer Hospital, and in that short space of time, has overseen many advancements and innovations, including expanding access to CAR-T cell therapy, a new class of treatment for cancer patients.



# Making a Difference Every Day



**Renallie Anglo**  
Manager, Accounting  
and Finance



**Angela Bolaris**  
Manager, Donation  
Development



**Amita Ciccarelli**  
Manager, Payroll



**Blanca Cohen**  
Director,  
Quality Systems



**Daisy Colin**  
Manager, Donor  
Family Aftercare



**Gloria Handy**  
Administrative  
Manager, Operations



**E'Tiffany Jones**  
Manager,  
Communications &  
Strategic Partnerships



**Cheryl Kritz**  
Manager, Human  
Resources



**Stacy Lane**  
Manager,  
Donation Standards  
Policy Procedures



**Jessica Moreno**  
Manager,  
Family Care



**Rosemary O'Meeghan,**  
MBChB  
Medical Director,  
Referral Management



**Cynthia Perley**  
Chief Financial Officer



**Diana Ponce-Martel**  
Manager,  
Donor Information



**LyCyndi Ramirez**  
Senior Vice  
President, External  
Partnerships



**Elizabeth Reid**  
Vice President,  
Clinical Operations



**Charlotte Troilo**  
Vice President,  
Human Resources



**Alexia Wela**  
Director, Donation  
Development

As the Los Angeles business community honors "Women in Healthcare," OneLegacy salutes with pride and gratitude the incredible dedication and passionate commitment of the nearly 200 women working in all capacities and at all levels throughout our organization. Their daily enthusiasm towards championing the power of donation is helping to serve as the bridge to life for 20 million Southern Californians who one day may be in need of a lifesaving or life-altering organ, eye or tissue transplant. We invite you to join us in this effort.



## WOMEN OF INFLUENCE: HEALTH CARE

**SARAH VAN ORMAN**

Associate Vice Provost for Student Health Chief Health Officer, USC Student Health Clinical Professor of Family Medicine, Division Head College Health Keck School of Medicine of USC

For more than two decades, Dr. Sarah Van Orman has been a passionate advocate for improving student health across the country. She has been one of the most prominent voices for changing both the dialog and delivery of health services to students in the nation's colleges and universities. Van Orman raised the visibility of both the health needs of college students and college health because she believes that college students have unique needs.

She has promoted the development of holistic, public health approaches, involving student health working with campus departments such as housing and police, to ensure that students' physical and mental health needs are met as well as changing the policies, systems and environment to improve student wellbeing. She has advocated for investment in student health because it is intrinsically tied to academic success. At USC, she has supported a massive expansion of mental health services for students.

**JILL WELTON**

Hospital President and CEO  
Dignity Health – Glendale Memorial Hospital & Health Center

Jill Welton has served as the hospital president and chief executive officer of Dignity Health - Glendale Memorial Hospital and Health Center since July 2018. With more than 20 years of health care experience, Welton is a proven leader with demonstrated success in culture change and quality improvement.

In less than three years, Welton, along with the support of a dedicated leadership team, has improved the hospital's quality outcomes and patient experience scores, while enhancing services. These improvements have been recognized nationally with the hospital's first-ever CMS Five-Star Quality Rating and two-time Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade A. Welton is an advocate for equity, diversity and inclusion with a strong passion for leading change in health care by championing for racial justice, women's rights, and LGBTQ+ rights. She served as an emergency room nurse, before shifting her focus to administrative leadership roles.

**LEOLA W. WILLIAMS**

CEO and Founder  
Stay Well Leola

Leola W. Williams is an accomplished nurse entrepreneur with over 30 years of service to the Veterans Administration as a charge nurse, and president of Local 3943, representing medical professionals. Her outstanding service as a nurse led her to become the 2016 recipient of the Daisy Award for Extraordinary Nurses and in 2021, Williams won the Humanitarian Award from the Nurses Pub.

Williams' company, Stay Well Leola, is a Women's Business Enterprise (WBE) and a Women-Owned Small Business (WOSB). It is FDA/CE approved and licensed to offer medical supplies and products. Williams is aware of the rising number of scams infiltrating the internet as PPE products became in high demand. She has made it her mission to provide business transparency and reliable customer service with no price gouging.

# Buchalter Congratulates

## CAROL K. LUCAS

### Shareholder

*Nominated by the Los Angeles Business Journal*

## WOMAN OF INFLUENCE: HEALTH CARE





# Providing healing, promoting hope with humankindness.

Congratulations to our Women of Influence: Health Care.

Thank you to the thousands of women serving across Dignity Health's Southern California Division. Together, we are making history, celebrating our contributions to our communities, while continuing to advocate for women's rights.

This Women's History Month, we recognize the strong, intelligent, hardworking women who are committed to our mission, the improvement of public health, and equality for all.

**Hello humankindness®**



**Julie Sprengel**  
President & CEO  
Dignity Health Southern California Division  
CommonSpirit Health



**Alina Moran**  
Hospital President & CEO  
Dignity Health - California Hospital  
Medical Center



**Jill Welton**  
Hospital President & CEO  
Dignity Health - Glendale Memorial  
Hospital and Health Center



## WOMEN OF INFLUENCE: HEALTH CARE

# Providing a Bridge to Life ... and Fulfilling Career Opportunities

For more than four decades, OneLegacy has been the bridge to life for 20 million Southern Californians who one day may be in need of a lifesaving or life-altering organ, eye or tissue transplant. For its nearly 340 employees, OneLegacy has also been the bridge to a fulfilling career where each of its team members knows that they are making a meaningful difference in championing the power of donation.

“It feels good to know that all of our work contributes to saving lives,” said Jeanna Garcia, scheduling/payroll coordinator at OneLegacy. “I feel that all of my coworkers believe, as do I, in OneLegacy’s mission and I am proud to have a pink dot on my driver’s license.”

Jeanna is one of the many women working in various capacities throughout OneLegacy. Some work in OneLegacy’s home office in downtown Los Angeles and some in the renowned OneLegacy Transplant Recovery Center in Redlands, while others work throughout the communities where they are actively engaged every day with hospitals, donor families and community groups to encourage more people to say ‘yes’ to donation. Their skills span from clinical to administrative and can be seen at all levels of the organization in finance, marketing, operations, information technology, donor engagement and beyond. Many of these women hold critical leadership positions at OneLegacy, ranging from chief financial officer to medical director to senior vice president of external partnerships – each and every one playing an integral role in the organization’s daily operations.

As the Los Angeles business community honors “Women in Healthcare,” OneLegacy salutes with pride and gratitude the women in all capacities throughout its organization who are helping to drive lifesaving innovations in organ donation for families throughout the greater Southern California region.

“I come from a different culture where donation was not prevalent,” said procurement transplant coordinator Indah Sari. “Making a difference has always been my passion and at OneLegacy, I am fulfilling that passion by helping to save lives.”

Indah and her colleagues at OneLegacy work with more than 200 hospitals and 10 transplant centers -- as well as sheriffs’ and coroners’ offices – to serve one of the most



diverse populations in the country – stretching across Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, Ventura, Santa Barbara and Kern counties.

Further, OneLegacy is part of the United States’ organ donation network, which is recognized as the best in the world, with the highest deceased donor transplant rate of any country and a donation rate nearly double that of Europe. In 2021 alone, despite a global pandemic, OneLegacy enabled the transplant of 1,688 organs from 591 donors - an 8% increase in organ donation from the prior year, marking the seventh consecutive year of record-setting

organ donation and transplantation. During this same timeframe, more than 155,000 lives were healed through tissue donation and transplantation and 1,037 vision-restoring corneal transplants were enabled thanks to the OneLegacy Eye Bank.

“I’ve seen through friends how much donation has impacted their families’ lives. That joy and happiness that they’ve experienced has pushed me to continue helping to provide that act of service to more people,” said OneLegacy surgical recovery technician Christina Moy. “I enjoy that I’m able to utilize my training as a surgical technologist to continue to assist fami-

lies by providing the gift of life and health.”

As Christina knows, one organ donor can save up to eight lives and one tissue donor can help as many as 75 others heal. She also knows that these lifesaving transplants would not be possible without generous donors and their families who, in the midst of tragedy, understand that donation is more about life than it is about death for it allows them to leave a lasting, living legacy to their loved one. Nationally, there are approximately 107,000 people waiting to receive a lifesaving heart, liver, lung, kidney or pancreas transplant. While transplant waiting lists have declined over recent years, the need for transplants is growing far faster than potential donors, given that less than 1% of all deaths qualify for donation.

Just as the opportunity to donate and to receive a lifesaving transplant knows no national, racial, ethnic or religious boundaries nor sexual orientation, so too the hiring philosophy at OneLegacy have no such restraints. What is required most of all is the right heart. Donation development coordinator Colleen Okyere highlighted this sentiment perfectly when asked what she enjoys most about working at OneLegacy: “the opportunity to give back and to know that my work has a purpose greater than myself.”

Many exciting opportunities are awaiting at OneLegacy, including those connected to the organization’s planned relocation this summer to a new state-of-the-art headquarters in Azusa that will serve as a critical connector for Southern California’s regional healthcare system.

To find out more about joining this mission-driven company, go to [onelegacy.org/careers](https://onelegacy.org/careers).

**JOIN OUR  
TEAM.**

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**SAVE  
LIVES.**

[OneLegacy.org](https://OneLegacy.org)